

## VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

David Sorensen Maine Republican Party 9 Higgins St Augusta, ME 04330 JUN -6 2016 .

RE: MUR 6882

Dear Mr. Sorensen:

The Federal Election Commission reviewed the allegations in your complaint received on October 16, 2014. On May 19, 2016, based upon the information provided in the complaint, and information provided by the respondents, the Commission decided to exercise its prosecutorial discretion to dismiss the allegations and close its file in this matter. Accordingly, the Commission closed its file in this matter on May 19, 2016.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. See Statement of Policy Regarding Disclosure of Closed Enforcement and Related Files, 68 Fed. Reg. 70,426 (Dec. 18, 2003) and Statement of Policy Regarding Placing First General Counsel's Reports on the Public Record, 74 Fed. Reg. 66132 (Dec. 14, 2009). The Dismissal Report, which more fully explain the Commission's finding, is enclosed.

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, allows a complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of this action. See 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(8).

Sincerely,

Daniel A. Petalas

Acting General Counsel

BY: Jeff S. Jordan

Assistant General Counsel
Complaints Examination and
Legal Administration

Enclosure
Dismissal Report

## BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

## ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM DISMISSAL REPORT

2016 HAY -9 AM 11: 19

MUR: 6882

Respondents: Cain for Congress, and

Complaint Receipt Date: October 16, 2014

Jeremy Fischer, as treasu@ELA

Response Date(s): December 11, 2014

(collectively the "Committee")

**EPS** Rating:

Alleged Statutory/

52 U.S.C. § 30120(d)(1)(B)(ii)

Regulatory Violations:

11 C.F.R. § 110.11(c)(3)(iii)

The Complaint alleges that Cain for Congress, the authorized committee of Congressional candidate Emily Cain, violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act") and Commission regulations by airing a television advertisement that failed to include a written statement that Cain approved the advertisement. The Act requires that television communications by candidates contain a disclaimer including, among other things, a statement that identifies the candidate and states that the candidate approved the communication. The required statement must be spoken by the candidate and shall also appear in writing at the end of the communication. The disclaimer here was technically noncompliant because it failed to include the written statement that the candidate approved the communication, but it did include a spoken statement to that effect.

Cain for Congress admits that it omitted the written statement, but states that it was inadvertent and that it sent a corrected version of the advertisement to the television stations once it discovered the omission.

Based on its experience and expertise, the Commission has established an Enforcement Priority System using formal, pre-determined scoring criteria to allocate agency resources and assess whether particular matters warrant further administrative enforcement proceedings. These criteria include (1) the gravity of the alleged violation, taking into account both the type of activity

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and the amount in violation; (2) the apparent impact the alleged violation may have had on the electoral process; (3) the complexity of the legal issues raised in the matter; and (4) recent trends in potential violations and other developments in the law. This matter is rated as low priority for Commission action after application of these pre-established criteria. Given that low rating and the other circumstances presented, we recommend that the Commission dismiss the allegations consistent with the Commission's prosecutorial discretion to determine the proper ordering of its priorities and use of agency resources. *Heckler v. Chaney*, 470 U.S. 821, 831-32 (1985). We also recommend that the Commission close the file as to all respondents and send the appropriate letters.

Daniel A. Petalas Acting General Counsel

Kathleen M. Guith Acting Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

5.9.16 Date μv.

Stephen Gura

Deputy Associate General Counsel

for Enforcement

Jeff S. Jordan

Assistant General Counsel Complaints Examination

& Legal Administration

Donald E. Campbell

Attorney

Complaints Examination

& Legal Administration